

Wednesday, May 16, 2007

House Meets At...	Votes Predicted At...
10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business	Last Vote: 8:00-9:00 p.m.
Unlimited "One-minutes" Per Side	

Any anticipated Member absences for votes this week should be reported to the Office of the Majority Whip at 226-3210.

Floor Schedule and Procedure

- **H. Res. 403—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 1585 - National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Rep. Castor – Rules):**
The structured rule provides ninety minutes of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services. The rule also provides that the substitute reported by the Committee on Armed Services shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Castor and consideration will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the rule.
 - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
 - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**
- **H.R. 1585 - National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Rep. Skelton – Armed Services):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Armed Services Committee Chair Rep. Ike Skelton, or his designee, and will proceed in the following order:
 - Ninety minutes of debate on the bill.
 - Debate and votes on amendments to the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on final passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

Bill Summary and Key Issues

H.R. 1585 - National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008

Funding. HR 1585 authorizes \$503.8 billion in budget authority for the Department of Defense (DoD) and the national security programs of the Department of Energy (DoE). The bill also authorizes \$141.8 billion to support ongoing military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan during fiscal year 2008.

Restoring Readiness. The U.S. military is without a doubt the premier fighting force in the world, and the Committee is dedicated to providing the necessary resources and authorities to quickly and efficiently reverse declining trends in training and equipment readiness.

- **\$1 billion for the Strategic Readiness Fund** to fix equipment shortfalls
- **\$1 billion to provide the National Guard and Reserve equipment** from their unfunded requirements list
- \$2.3 billion for military construction projects related to expanding the size of the Army and Marine Corps.
- \$4.5 billion for the Joint IED Defeat Organization (JIEDDO)
- \$13.6 billion to fully address equipment shortages
- Procurement of **78 new Stryker vehicles**, plus force protection upgrades on existing vehicles
- End strength increase of **36,000 soldiers**
- \$250 million to **improve training** Department-wide
- Establishment of a **Defense Readiness Production Board** to mobilize the defense industrial base to speed up the production of military equipment
- Requires rating and reporting of National Guard readiness for homeland defense missions
- Requires a plan on reconstitution of pre-positioned equipment stocks

Meeting the Force Protection Needs of Our Troops. Our service members are courageously doing their duty overseas in multiple wars, and it is Congress' responsibility to provide them with the best gear and force protection possible. When a need is identified, the Committee has worked to fill it as quickly and efficiently as possible. The following initiatives will serve to provide the equipment and resources our brave men and women in uniform need to truly perform their missions as safely as possible.

Additional \$4.1 billion for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) Vehicles

- \$1.2 billion for **body armor**
- \$2.5 billion for **up-armored humvees**
- \$1.2 billion for **vehicle add-on armor**
- \$509.7 million for the Armored Security Vehicle (ASV)
- Comprehensive testing of all **helmet pad systems**

Taking Care of Service Members and Their Families. Our service members are our most valuable national security asset. They and their families sacrifice every day to defend our way of life and protect our nation from harm. With the military

engaged in multiple fronts around the world, the past few years have been particularly trying, and the Committee has worked to find ways to ease the burden on our troops and their dedicated families. As a result the Committee:

- Authorizes a **3.5% across-the-board pay raise** for all service members.
- Prohibits increases in both TRICARE and pharmacy user fees
- **Increases the Size of the Force** -the size of the Army is increased by 36,000 soldiers, the Marine Corps is increased by 9,000 and the Army National Guard is increased by 1,300 individuals.
- Adopts provisions from the House-passed **Wounded Warrior Assistance Act**
- Restores approximately **490 medical personnel positions**.
- Recommends **the establishment of a Military Mental Health Initiative** that would coordinate all mental health research and development for the Department.
- Directs the establishment of a **Traumatic Brain Injury Initiative** to provide the opportunity for emerging technologies and treatments to compete for funding
- Recommends an additional \$50 million for the Defense Health Program Sustainment account to fully fund this critical area, particularly at **Walter Reed Army Medical Center**.

Review of Roles and Missions. The Committee believes that a thorough review of roles and missions is overdue and proposes a major internal review by the Department of Defense. To assist this effort, the Committee authorizes the following series of legislative provisions aimed at forcing clarity and greater understanding of each service's role in the defense of our nation:

- Requires a review of the roles and missions of the Department of Defense every four years and that the missions of the Department be **organized into core mission areas** such as ground, air, maritime and space environments, expeditionary warfare, mobility, homeland defense, and cyber operations.
- **Identifies the core competencies** of the military departments, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, each defense agency, and each defense field activity. Each core competency is **required to be clearly associated with a core mission area** of the DoD.
- Directs a review of the capabilities that each of the military departments, the Office of the Secretary of Defense, each defense agency, and each defense field activity is maintaining or developing. The review would **determine whether these capabilities are outside the core competencies** for each entity or outside of the core mission areas of the DoD. Duplicated capabilities would have to be justified.
- **Requires the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) to organize its review of requirements according to the core mission areas** provide the military services with clear guidance on the priority assigned to each requirement and make clear the expected resources allocated to fulfill each requirement. The official assigned to lead the review must be of a different military department than the deputy for that core mission area.

Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 1585 (50 Amendments)

1. Skelton (MO): Manager's Amendment. This Manager's Amendment makes technical and conforming changes, including: Sec 301 – Apportions funds for additional WMD civil support teams to the correct accounts (net change is zero). Sec 576 – Clarifying language to correctly apportion \$3 million in funds to defense-wide operation and maintenance accounts. Sec 1307 – Technical correction to add \$48,000 for cooperative threat reduction program. Sec 1508 – Technical correction to \$1 billion to Title XV for the Strategic Readiness Fund. Sec 1517 – Technical correction to include \$50 million requested by the Administration for NNSA. Sections 2104, 2204, 2304 – Technical correction to apportion funding for military construction projects to the correct accounts and to eliminate double-counting. Sec 3103 -- Technical correction to add \$6 million for energy security. (10 minutes)
2. Saxton (NJ)/LoBiondo (NJ)/Smith, Christopher (NJ)/Andrews (NJ): This amendment requires DOD to perform federal background checks for all unescorted visitors who seek entry to a military installation or facility, and employees of vendors and/or contractors who do business on a military installation or facility. The background checks will require a search in the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC) database, confirmation that they are not on a terrorist watch list, and collaboration with DHS to verify US citizenship status. (10 minutes)
3. Ortiz (TX): This amendment requires the Secretary of Transportation to submit a report identifying the non-retention vessels with the highest risk for environmental damage to local waters if further deterioration continues and a plan to dispose of these vessels by October 1, 2007. (10 minutes)
4. Reyes (TX): This amendment would add Mexico and the Dominican Republic to the list of countries to which the Department of Defense may provide non-lethal equipment (boats, aircraft, sensors, radios) to support counter-narcotics operations. (10 minutes)
5. Snyder (AR): This amendment would increase the funding for the Army National Guard military personnel account to fund the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program by \$50,000,000, with an offsetting reduction of \$50,000,000 from the Air Force JSTARS program. (10 minutes)
6. Smith, Adam (WA): This amendment would strike section 233, which authorizes \$10 million for the Army Capital Fund demonstration. Further, this amendment would reduce the total amount authorized in section 201(1), which authorizes funding for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Army, by \$10 million. (10 minutes)
7. Andrews (NJ): This amendment would require DOD to use renewable energy to meet at least 25% of its electricity needs by 2025, unless the Secretary determines a waiver is in the best interest of DOD. (10 minutes)
8. Andrews (NJ): This amendment would prevent funds authorized in the bill for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan from being obligated or expended to plan a contingency operation in Iran. (20 minutes)

9. Turner (OH): The amendment bars courts from entering or modifying an order changing the custody of the child of a servicemember during that servicemember's period of military service. The amendment provides an exception for temporary orders issued in the best interest of the child; upon completion of a servicemember's military service, any original custody order shall be reinstated. (10 minutes)

10. Drake (VA): This amendment would expand to all the uniformed services (the military services, as well as the Coast Guard, Public Health Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Corps) the authority for an enhanced increase in the monthly basic pay (0.5% above the Employment Cost Index) during fiscal years 2009 through 2012. (10 minutes)

11. Franks (AZ)/Cantor (VA)/Putnam (FL): This amendment increases by \$764 million the amount authorized for ballistic missile defense. (20 minutes)

12. Johnson, Jr., Hank (GA): This amendment would provide \$169,000,000 of medical military construction support at Fort Belvoir and Bethesda using amounts appropriated pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in section 2402(a)(9). (10 minutes)

13. Slaughter (NY): This amendment would require the Secretary of the Air Force to submit a report to the Congressional defense committees containing a plan for the current and future assets at the Niagara Air Reserve Base. (10 minutes)

14. DeFazio (OR)/Paul (TX)/Hinchey (NY)/Lee (CA): This amendment clarifies that no previously enacted law authorizes military action against Iran. It also prohibits funding authorized by the bill or in any other act from being used to take military action against Iran without specific authorization from Congress unless there is a "national emergency created by an attack by Iran upon the United States, its territories or possessions or its armed forces" (language taken directly from the War Powers Resolution, P.L. 93-148). (10 minutes)

15. Moran, James (VA): This amendment would require the Office of the Secretary of Defense to submit a report identifying the current capacity at Department of Defense facilities in the United States to securely hold and try before a military commission the detainees currently held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The report shall include the Department's estimated number of detainees that will be 1) charged with a crime, 2) subject to a release or transfer, or 3) held without being charged with a crime, but whom the Department wishes to detain. The report shall also describe actions required by the Secretary and Congress to ensure that detainees who are scheduled for release are released no later than December 31, 2007. (10 minutes)

16. Buyer (IN): The amendment would strike the proposed sections 3306 and 3326 of section 525, which prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from awarding unequal education benefits to members of the Selected Reserves based on when they became eligible for such benefits. (10 minutes)

17. Holden (PA): This amendment creates a Combat Medevac Badge to give recognition to those men and women who serve or served as helicopter medical

evacuation ambulance (Medevac) pilots or crewmembers in a combat theater. The amendment specifically will make any person who served in combat as a pilot or crewmember of a Medevac unit beginning June 25, 1950 eligible for the Combat Medevac Badge. (10 minutes)

18. Diaz-Balart, Lincoln (FL)/Diaz-Balart, Mario (FL)/Ros-Lehtinen (FL)/Hastings (FL): The amendment would allow the Secretary of the Navy to establish a Naval ROTC program at the University of Miami (Florida). (10 minutes)

19. Scott, Robert (VA): The amendment states Congress's finding that Modeling, Analysis, and Simulation Technology has become an essential component of national defense. It also states that it is important for the Defense Department to study the effects of warfare and disasters on urban environments. (10 minutes)

20. Stupak (MI): This amendment would require the Department of Defense to transport remains of service members by air to the airport nearest to the intended place of burial. (10 minutes)

21. Woolsey (CA): This amendment would require the Secretary of Defense to issue a report on the continued use, need, relevance, and cost of weapons systems designed to fight the Cold War and the former Soviet Union. (10 minutes)

22. Moran, James (VA): An amendment to require that the transportation infrastructure necessary to accommodate the large influx of military personnel and civilian employees to be assigned to Fort Belvoir, VA, as part of the BRAC realignment of the installation, be substantially completed before the relocation of these employees. (10 minutes)

23. Jackson-Lee (TX): This amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to study and report back to Congress on the financial and emotional impact of multiple deployments on the families of those soldiers who serve multiple tours as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. (10 minutes)

24. Jackson-Lee (TX): This amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to take the necessary steps to ensure that Army National Guard and Reserve ROTC scholarships are available to students attending historically black colleges and universities, and Hispanic-serving institutions. (10 minutes)

25. Davis, Tom (VA): This amendment would extend by three years (through 2010) the authorization for the Department of Defense to participate in the Information Technology Exchange Program (ITEP). (10 minutes)

26. Kennedy, Patrick (RI): The amendment would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a survey examining the feasibility of measuring family member satisfaction with the quality of health care services provided to patients, particularly those patients incapacitated by injuries that render them unable to respond completely to surveys on their own. (10 minutes)

27. LaHood (IL): The amendment would allow a member of the Armed Forces to request a deferment of a deployment to a combat zone if their spouse also is

deployed to a combat zone and the couple has minor dependent children. (10 minutes)

28. Allen (ME): The amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to report to Congress on the Department's policies on administering and evaluating multiple vaccinations within a 24-hour period to active duty members and members of the reserve components and to perform a study on the safety and effectiveness of administering multiple vaccinations within a 24-hour period. (10 minutes)

29. Fossella (NY): The amendment requires the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the United States Postal Service, to provide vouchers for free (less than 10 lbs) parcel or letter mailing to service members serving in Iraq or Afghanistan or currently hospitalized under the care of the Armed Forces. (10 minutes)

30. Tierney (MA)/Holt (NJ): The amendment reduces the \$8.1 billion specified for Missile Defense Agency (MDA) activities by \$1.084 billion from specified programs. (10 minutes)

31. Sessions (TX): This amendment clarifies that nothing in this legislation would prevent the United States' missile defense capabilities from being placed on operational alert to respond to an immediate threat posed by ballistic missiles. (10 minutes)

32. Holt (NJ): The amendment requires the videotaping of interrogations and other pertinent interactions between U.S. military personnel and/or contractors and detainees arrested and held. Directs the Judge Advocates General of the respective military services to develop uniform guidelines for such videotaping. Provides access to detainees for representatives of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture for independent monitoring of detainee conditions and treatment. (10 minutes)

33. Schakowsky (IL)/Price, David (NC): The amendment edits sections 831 and 833 of H.R.1585 by (1) limiting the number of times the President can waive restrictions on contracting should the Memorandum of Understanding regarding contracts for Iraq and Afghanistan not be completed; (2) clarifying that members of Congress on the relevant Committees can view contracts regardless of the MOU, as well as the database of contract information for work to be performed in Iraq and Afghanistan; and (3) clarifying that the Select Intelligence Committees shall be allowed to view contracts that fall under their jurisdiction. (10 minutes)

34. Inslee (WA): The amendment mandates that the Office of the Secretary of Defense report to Congress on its plans to implement management software that can measurably reduce energy consumption of PCs. (10 minutes)

35. Terry (NE): The amendment adds \$10 million to Defense-wide research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E) for the X Lab battlespace laboratory. The amount is offset by a \$10 million reduction to Navy RDT&E Littoral Combat System Mission Modules. (10 minutes)

36. Thompson, Mike (CA): The amendment revises DoD command policy to include membership in a criminal street gang among the list of prohibited activities by members of the Armed Forces. (10 minutes)

37. Capito (WV): The amendment expresses the sense of Congress that an appropriate site in Arlington National Cemetery should be provided for a memorial marker to honor the memory of the 40 members of the Armed Forces of the United States who lost their lives in the air crash at Bakers Creek, Australia, on June 14, 1943, provided that the Secretary of the Army have exclusive authority to approve the design and site for the memorial marker. (10 minutes)

38. Israel (NY)/Lee (CA): The amendment expresses the Sense of Congress that the U.S. and the Government of Chad should upgrade the Abeche Airfield in Chad in order to support potential NATO operations, facilitate a future U.N. deployment to Chad and the Darfur region of Sudan and to support humanitarian operations. Also requests the Pentagon study what specific airfield improvements should be made and report to Congress. (20 minutes)

39. Israel (NY): The amendment directs the Secretary of Defense to study commercial optimization solutions in aviation technology and make any recommendations that would best support the mission of the Department. (10 minutes)

40. Matheson (UT): The amendment requires that the Moab uranium mill tailings pile, currently located on the banks of the Colorado River near Moab, Utah, be remediated and the tailings removed to Crescent Junction, Utah by October 1, 2019. (10 minutes)

41. King, Steve (IA): The amendment adds language to section 1222 to explain that the bill's prohibition on the establishment of permanent military bases in Iraq should not be construed to prohibit the United States from establishing a temporary military base or installation by entering into basing rights agreements between the United States and Iraq. The amendment also states that Congress recognizes the United States has not established any permanent military installations inside or outside the United States. (20 minutes)

42. McCotter (MI): This amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to conduct a thorough review of the procedures by which the Department of Defense's existing classification procedures have failed to prevent the transfer of defense articles and defense services with military technology components to terrorists, state sponsors of terrorism, or other unfriendly countries or groups. The Secretary must report back to Congress within 180 days of enactment with the results of the review and the measures to be implemented to rectify the deficiencies of the existing classification procedures. (10 minutes)

43. Michaud (ME)/Langevin (RI)/Ryan, Tim (OH)/Harman (CA)/Shays (CT)/Davis, Susan (CA)/Sanchez, Loretta (CA): The amendment ensures that emergency contraception is available at all military health care facilities. Emergency contraception is currently included in the Uniform Formulary, a list of drugs that may be included at military health care facilities. The amendment

would include emergency contraception in the Basic Core Formulary, a list of drugs that must be included at all military health care facilities. (20 minutes)

44. Boren (OK)/Boustany (LA): The amendment restricts the use of the name or image of a member of the Armed Forces for commercial purposes without written permission from the soldier (or from the family if the soldier is deceased). It gives U.S. Attorneys the authority to seek injunctions against violators. (10 minutes)

45. Lipinski (IL): This amendment would require the Department of Defense, to the maximum extent deemed feasible, to utilize lighting fixtures and bulbs that are energy efficient. Energy efficient lighting is to be installed during the normal course of maintenance or whenever a building is significantly altered or constructed. (10 minutes)

46. Altmire (PA)/Udall, Tom (NM): The amendment provides that employees covered by the Family Medical Leave Act, whose family member is a member of the Armed Forces and has been called to active duty in a contingency operation, may use FMLA leave to deal with exigencies arising from that call to duty, such as arranging for child care and other family obligations. The Secretary of Labor shall issue regulations defining the exigencies that qualify for leave under this amendment. (10 minutes)

47. Braley (IA): The amendment requires the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study of (1) the feasibility of a pilot program on family support services for National Guard and Reserve members, and (2) the feasibility of entering into a contract with a private sector entity to enhance support services for children of National Guard and Reserve members who are deployed. (10 minutes)

48. Mitchell (AZ)/Space (OH)/Walz (MN)/Rodriguez (TX): The amendment would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a written, voluntary authorization form to service members to enable them to release their medical records to the Veterans Administration. (10 minutes)

49. Carney (PA): The amendment expresses the sense of Congress that Guard and Reserve members should have up to ten years to use their education benefits. (10 minutes)

50. Walz (MN): The amendment would require the Department of Defense to study and report back to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees within 9 months on the participation rate of service members in the federal tuition assistance program and to assess the extent to which the program affects retention rates. (10 minutes)

Quote of the Day

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.” -Abraham Lincoln